

Vietnam Tests Indicate 5.5% G.I. Addiction, Panel Told

By FELIX BELAIR Jr.

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, July 30—President Nixon's special consultant on narcotics and dangerous drugs told Senate investigators today that 5.5 per cent of servicemen tested in South Vietnam had shown indications of heroin addiction.

The figure given by the consultant, Dr. Jerome H. Jaffe, for tests through July 28 was one percentage point higher than the figure he reported to President Nixon on July 17 as "a reasonable estimate of the size of the problem." He told the Joint Government Operations Subcommittee today that neither the former nor current figures reflect the extent of addiction accurately since the tests were being given only to returning servicemen.

Dr. Jaffe testified in support of Administration legislation to create a White House special action office on drug abuse

prevention, of which he would be the director.

His first appearance as a witness before a Congressional body was marked by criticism by Democrats and Republicans on the panel of the Administration's apparent unwillingness to provide the names of corrupt civilian and military officials in South Vietnam, Laos and Thailand who are said to be trafficking in narcotics.

Attorney General John N. Mitchell told the panel more than a month ago that such a list of officials was on file at the United States Embassy in Saigon and that he saw no objection to providing the subcommittee with the information in executive session.

At the start of the hearing today, Senator Edmund S. Muskie, Democrat of Maine, recalled that he and Senator Abraham Ribicoff, Democrat of Connecticut, as co-chairmen of the subcommittee, had written the Attorney General, the Secretaries of State and Defense and the Director of the Cen-

tral Intelligence Agency inviting them to "discuss these alarming allegations."

Although the invitation was made on July 9, Senator Muskie said, the only response had been from an assistant to Secretary of Defense Melvin R. Laird, stating that "there are no personnel in the Department of Defense qualified to testify in regard to the problem of international drug traffic and we will, therefore, be unable to provide a witness as you have requested."

"I am perplexed by that response from the Department of Defense," Senator Muskie said. "It is hard to believe that a department that has sent two and a half million men through Southeast Asia and whose top officials have supplied the U.S. Ambassador in Saigon with a list of high-ranking Vietnamese

officials it suspects of involvement in heroin trade cannot come up with even one official who can discuss the heroin traffic in Southeast Asia before these subcommittees.

"I am dismayed at the reluctance of the Administration to tell the American people and the Congress the facts about this matter," he said.

Later, Senator Charles H. Percy, Republican of Illinois and Dr. Jaffe's sponsor within the Administration, echoed Senator Muskie's complaint. He referred to the present "impasse between the joint subcommittee and the Administration" and said, "I hope you will impress on the President the need for an executive session to hear competent witnesses — if possible next Monday."

HEW Treatment Of Heroin Addicts Assailed in House

By Jane Sims

Washington Post Staff Writer

Congressman Paul Rogers (D-Fla.) charged yesterday that Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare Elliot Richardson was "slowing down" treatment of the country's 250,000 heroin addicts.

At a House health subcommittee hearing, Rogers complained that HEW's 300 community mental health centers are negligent in offering addicts only limited care, rather than hospital treatment.

Meanwhile, at a Senate drug abuse hearing, Sen. Edmund Muskie (D-Maine) criticized a Defense Department statement that it has "no qualified personnel" to testify on military and civilian involvement in Southeast Asian drug traffic.

Said Muskie, subcommittee chairman on intergovernmental relations: "It is hard to believe that a Department that has sent 2.5 million men through Southeast Asia and whose top officials have supplied the U.S. Ambassador in Saigon with a list of high-ranking Vietnamese officials it suspects of involvement in heroin trade cannot come up

with even one official who can discuss the heroin traffic in Southeast Asia."

At the same hearing, Dr. Jerome Jaffe, directed of President Nixon's proposed Special Action Office for Drug Abuse Prevention, disclosed that latest urinalysis testing of 39,400 servicemen leaving Vietnam shows 5.4 per cent are heroin users, compared to 4.5 per cent for 22,000 servicemen earlier this month.

Veterans Administration officials testifying before the House drug hearings said that only three out of 12,000 Vietnam servicemen identified as addicts have been referred to the VA for treatment.

"More than 8,000 addicts have turned themselves in under the amnesty program and Pentagon reports say they have arrested another 3,500 for heroin addiction this year," said Rogers. "It's unbelievable that only three have been treated."